



March 29, 2017

To: Federal Communications Commission

From: UBTA-UBET Communications Inc. d/b/a STRATA Networks

Re: Forbearance Notification

WC Docket No. 11-42 – Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization

UBTA-UBET Communications Inc. d/b/a STRATA Networks (STRATA; SAC 502287) hereby notifies the FCC that it is availing itself of forbearance relief granted by the *Lifeline Modernization Order*¹ from the obligation to offer Lifeline-supported broadband Internet access service.

STRATA is an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) that receives Alternative Connect America Cost Model (A-CAM) support in Utah. The Cooperative elects forbearance relief for those census blocks in its study area that are not funded under A-CAM. The Cooperative does not receive high-cost support for those unfunded census blocks and is not subject to high-cost public interest broadband obligations in them. What follows is the information the Wireline Competition Bureau has requested in these notifications.²

1. *Carrier Name*: UBTA-UBET Communications Inc. d/b/a STRATA Networks

¹ *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization et al.*, WC Docket No. 11-42 et al., Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, 31 FCC Rcd 3962 (2016) (*Lifeline Modernization Order*). In particular, the *Lifeline Modernization Order* forbore from requiring high-cost support recipients to offer Lifeline-supported broadband in areas where they are not receiving high-cost support or are not subject to high-cost public interest broadband obligations. *Id.*, 31 FCC Rcd 4074-75, paras. 309, 311, 312.

² *Wireline Competition Bureau Provides Guidance Regarding Filing Procedures for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Seeking to Invoke Forbearance Granted by Lifeline Modernization Order*, WC Docket No. 11-42, Public Notice, 31 FCC Rcd 12672 (2016).

2. ETC Designation Information

- a. *ETC Designation Order*: Utah Public Service Commission; In The Matter Of The Request Of Several Local Exchange Companies To Be Designated As Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §214(e)(2); Docket No. 97-999-04; Summary Order; July 10, 1997.

Note: STRATA was designated under the name Uintah Basin Telephone Association.

- b. *Designating Authority*: Utah Public Service Commission
 - c. *Type of Designation*: High-cost support recipient (*i.e.*, not Lifeline-only)
 - d. *Date of ETC Designation*: July 10, 1997
3. *Areas Where ETC Seeks Forbearance*: The Excel file that accompanies this notification contains a list of the census blocks, in numerical order by FIPS code, where STRATA is availing itself of forbearance relief. The listed census blocks are all those within the Cooperative's ETC-designated service area that are not funded under A-CAM.
 4. *Date and Reason for Change*: STRATA received its first A-CAM support payment on February 28, 2017. Therefore, as of that date, the Cooperative no longer receives high-cost support for census blocks within its designated service area that are not funded under the model and is not subject to broadband public interest obligations in those blocks.
 5. *Information on Areas Where Carrier Elects to Offer Broadband*: Notwithstanding the forbearance relief STRATA is claiming for its census blocks that do not receive A-CAM support, the Cooperative still intends to offer Lifeline-supported broadband in those blocks to the extent qualifying service is available.

Please feel free to contact me at 435-622-5472 or ksearle@stratanetworks.com if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Karl Searle
Chief Financial Officer